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a) it is soluble in water, but is hardly soluble in ethanol and acetone;

b) it is acidic;

c) it keeps 70% of its activity, after being heated at 100°C for 10 minutes and it is inactivated, after being autoclaved at 121°C for 20 minutes;

d) it is a polar substance, and is not retained in reversed-phase columns with Cosmosil 75C<sub>18</sub>-OPN and Diaion HP-20;

e) it is stable at pH of 3 to 9, but at pH 11, its activity is reduced to 60%;

f) it is inactivated by Pronase E, but it is not inactivated by Glycosidases "Mixed"; and

g) it is adsorbed to DEAE Sephadex A-25 ion-exchange resin (and eluted with 1000 mM KCl), but it is not adsorbed to CM Sephadex C-25.

REMARKS

This application is directed to claims 18 and 19 from the parent application. Applicants have amended these claims to more particularly define the invention. Claim 18 now makes explicitly the previously inherent character of the factor as a peptide (see specification, at 1, Field of the Invention). Claim 19 adds the inherent term "peptide" and deletes words of degree, thereby claiming the invention more precisely. Applicants request the entry of these amendments and the examination of these claims.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

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